

I attended the Monterey meeting and here are my comments summarized:

- More meetings of this kind need to take place in more cities as well as rural regions, 6 are simply not enough.
- Jurisdiction / taxing of local airwaves ought to be primarily local, not federal. A state, congressional district or even a county should hold ownership of its local airwaves with regard to television and radio broadcasting rules and ownership, much as San Francisco is now negotiating Cable TV and municipal broadband, the elected leaders of the Cities/counties of the bay should be able to negotiate broadcast contracts.
- The FCC should not have shut down Free Radio Santa Cruz. Their station provided good alternative content for 10 years and went out of its way not to interfere with any other signals. This is a case where local control, such as the Santa Cruz city council, would never have made such a bad mistake. The public interest was forcibly unplugged and removed.
- LPFM must be easier to obtain for people who don't have much capitol or run a church. We really don't need a hawaiian radio station.
- Media ownership consolidation must be reversed in the interest of the first amendment. Quality honest journalism is lost in favor of infotainment served to distract from real issues. The agenda is being set by too small a group of increasingly powerful elite interests, definitely not by an local community's real interest. Local news is a joke these days.
- Media representation is distorted. The red and blue states we saw in the last election would have looked alot more purple if they were shaded correctly. People ran around for days blaming the 'red states' when in fact the map released by Princeton looks much more purple. The illusion of binary division is farily counter-productive to real social progress, yet this is typical of mainstream media reporting.
- Californians need a proportionate allocation of Spanish TV and Radio broadcasting (as well as Vietnamese, Filipino, Chinese etc.) Furthermore, community-owned and community-produced programming. A modern and mature society should encourage cross-cultural learning as opposed to old-fashioned assimilation.

I have many more concerns, but cannot express them all here. Please forward my continuing support for Copps and Adelstein and my enthusiasm for compassion progress from Abernathy.